

ardently wished for,—a son of his own, an inheritor of his name, his power, and his throne. I must take this opportunity of stating that the malevolent and infamous rumors spread abroad respecting the birth of the Kin^g of Rome were wholly without foundation. My friend (Wvisart, who did not for a single instant leave Maria Louisa during her long and painful labor, removed from my mind every doubt, on the subject. It is as true that the young Prince, for whom the Emperor of Austria stood sponsor at the font, was the son of Napoleon and the Archduchess Maria Louisa as it is false that Bonaparte was the father of the first child of Hoi-tense. The birth of the son of Napoleon was hailed with general enthusiasm.¹ The Emperor was at the height of his power from the period of the birth of his son until the reverse he experienced after the battle of the Moskowa. The Empire, including the States possessed by the Imperial family, contained nearly 57,000,000 of inhabitants; but the period was fast approaching when this power, unparalleled in modern times, was to collapse under its own weight.

¹ Tlio reader will find 80m« very interesting notice of this great wont and the r/eijt which followed, in tin* *Mhmtrmt/ftt** /*itn/lt-murf* /*hrtnt&tt*, vol. iii. p. y/i), It appears from Mademoiselle AvrHlhm** Memoirs that Napoleon was the Brst to umioonee to Josephinu th« hrtlti <>f hnttHnu. "liiHui;hcln pumRtrtnees," wiid inadtmmiselh* ** nil that |«HWM in tin' hreust of a wonum is inuxpleahle: tin' 1C in press teHtiid the grrat'Ht and the m«*st-sincere, joy at an ovont which wiu* foishlorod by aliuwl ul Kr nllntitMMi an an iuuunitie happinoKK for tht Kmpiro. » Hhe. MhovMMi »»»% with a Hurt of jmdt*, the letter the* Kmporor had written h«»r with hi» >>wn hriud, and hi which lie added, after having wld, *My dimr Jnh'thitiui, I havi* a mm,* *tlwmi* other words, * I am at thti Hununit <>f my liappn^HH*.
* Y<>!' naid *tlw* Knipn*HH *!fH4nphht(< l«> m« with vinlhlo emotion, though without, any sign of jualoiwy or it! humor, * VOH! hi* mtmt l«> v<»ry happy! and then, after drying: HWW* teira that *H«*«ij» >> hi» r, nh« coittuunw, "ami I alHo—I too ought to IMS v«ry happy at thi» happittHMof lin» Km/M«r«r* *. happy to w«* tlic fulfilment of th«* wi«h«is of all Kran.ru— I now gather tliw fruits of my painful MactrificM, since* th«y havu Msrutnl thii prcwpuity <>f Friukii,
Thft little King of Home, Napoiwm FniticiiH littiitpiirti*, wai born on the 20th of March, 1811. — *Editor of mm*